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Clearwater National Forest 12730 Highway 12 Orofino, ID 83544 208-476-4541

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Elayne Murphy (208)935-4273

Date: September 5, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Old Man/Rock Lake Area Closure Rescinded

Orofino – An area closure for some Clearwater National Forest lands south of Wilderness Gateway Campground will be lifted Thursday, September 6.

That rescission will restore access to the popular "Seven Lakes" area of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness.

Fire managers report fire activity has subsided in the vicinity of the Old Man and Rock Lake Fires, making it safe for the public to use the area once again.

Both fires are being allowed to burn as "wildland fire use" fires for their ecological benefits. Fire managers monitor and evaluate them on a daily basis.

Visitors are reminded to remain cautious when traveling in the area as both fires are still burning, albeit at a much lower intensity.

Questions about the Old Man/Rock Lake area should be directed to the Lochsa Ranger District at (208)926-4274.

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